

*West Lake MUN 2007*  
**Conference Handbook**

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October 20, 2007

Dear Model United Nations Delegates and Directors,

Welcome to the West Lake Model United Nations Conference 2007!

We, the organizers of this conference, welcome you to Hangzhou, an inspiring location for our event. Throughout its history, the city of Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang province, has been the site of famous achievements in art, religion and government. More than one thousand years ago, governor-poets in Hangzhou began managing West Lake so that it would not become silted. At the same time, the lake's reputation grew in poetry. Painters and poets were moved by the many beautiful views of the lake. It is said that the lake is beautiful in all types of weather and at all times of the day. Hundreds of Buddhist monasteries have also been built around the perimeter of the lake, lending even more significance to the location.

The organizers of this conference hope that delegates will feel similarly inspired in visiting this location, and that this inspiration will produce fruitful discussions of the issues facing modern governments. Delegates can take further inspiration from the city's many connections with the United Nations. A year ago today, the 9<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Expo held its final day of discussions. The event took place in Hangzhou and was sponsored by UNESCO, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and the China National Tourism Association (CNTA), among others. Hangzhou has also been listed as "most suitable residential city" by the United Nations Human Habitat Center and awarded the UN's Best Human Habitat prize.

Four years ago, UN Secretary General Kofi Anna began a tour of China by visiting Hangzhou and receiving an honorary doctorate degree from Zhejiang University. The following quote from his acceptance speech challenges young people to make the most of the education they have been privileged to receive.

"You will enter a world shaped by globalisation. What happens in one country affects another. Epidemics, environmental degradation, terrorism challenge us all. Scientific breakthroughs, information technology, economic integration, have the potential to benefit us all. The biggest challenge facing your generation is to ensure that globalisation becomes a force for good -- a force that works not only for the privileged few, but for all humankind."

Let us make the most of this opportunity to gather in a beautiful location and discuss what the United Nations can contribute to the world today.

The organizers of West Lake MUN 2007 wish delegates all the best as they prepare for the debates. We thank delegates and directors for showing their support for this conference. In return, we have worked hard to honor your trust by creating a top-notch forum for discussion of the issues that face humankind. We urge each of you to communicate your needs and suggestions, and we look forward to an inspiring and productive discussion.

Sincerely,

The Conference Organizers

Thomas Robinson  
MUN Director

Anna Erickson  
Assistant MUN Director

Brian Horvath  
Principal

Kurt Kahlenbeck  
Assistant Principal

## **Conference Theme and Forum Topics**

At West Lake MUN, there will be one forum, the General Assembly. This forum will be focused on the rights of the child. All topics have been chosen to reflect this general theme. Each delegate will prepare an opening speech on this general topic. While delegates are free to comment on their country's policies with respect to the conference topics, they are urged to cast these comments in view of the conference theme.

Seventeen years ago, the United Nations organized a conference addressing the needs of children. Since then, many nations have signed on to the 1990 Convention on the Rights of the Child. Delegates are urged to study these rights, to reflect on their countries attitude towards these values, and to consider whether these rights are adequate. In a time of progressive environmental degradation, emerging threats to individual well-being, and increasingly complex and prevalent technology, what responsibilities do the adults of today bear in preserving the a livable world for their children? These and other questions may be addressed during the opening ceremonies of West Lake MUN 2007.

### **Topics to be debated by the General Assembly:**

1. Measures to eliminate the use of child soldiers in combat.
2. Enhancing the status of women in developing countries.
3. Mitigating threats to polar environments.
4. Protecting human rights while combating terror

### **Measures to eliminate the use of child soldiers in combat.**

The United Nations has estimated that at least 250,000 children around the world are currently fighting in a dozen different conflicts. These children are either directly involved in combat or serving as spies, messengers, or even sexual servants. The issue of child soldiers has been discussed by the General Assembly throughout the last decade, yet the problem has persisted. The reintegration of former child soldiers into society is also a challenge. If children are not assisted in overcoming the physical and emotional trauma suffered during their time in combat, they find it extremely difficult to become contributing members of society. While the elimination of child soldiers is often a complex problem dependent on the political situation within a specific country, the success of reintegration programs is dependent on funding from sources outside of that country.

As recently as last February, a group of sixty nations met in Paris to reaffirm their support for the elimination and rehabilitation of child soldiers. This pledge, known as the Paris Principles, carries a moral but not legal weight. As the General Assembly opened its 58<sup>th</sup> session on September 18, a group of 60 nations held a concurrent meeting to continue the discussion about child soldiers. At West Lake MUN, countries are urged to review their progress in this area and to find measures that will eliminate once and for all the scourge of child soldiers.

#### **Sources:**

“Nations renew global commitment to stop the use of child soldiers” International Herald Tribune 1 Oct. 2007 <<http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2007/10/01/news/UN-GEN-UN-Child-Soldiers.php>>

## **Enhancing the status of women in developing countries.**

In the first half of the 1990's, the United Nations embarked on a series of world conferences to focus a newly-defined international community on the challenges of the coming century. The International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, drew a clear link between the empowerment of women and the control of population growth. This conference laid the groundwork for the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 which resulted in a declaration and platform for action broadly supported by the international community. The main idea set forth in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is the absolute equality between human rights and women's rights, an idea which extends to reproductive rights for women and the right of women to be free from violence. Progress in these areas was reviewed at the 23<sup>rd</sup> special Assembly of the General Assembly in 2000 (Beijing+5). In March of 2005, the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW, one of the commissions of ECOSOC) reviewed again the progress achieved on the Beijing Platform and linked the platform's goals with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The third MDG, to promote gender equality and empower, aims to eliminate gender disparities in education by 2015. The fifth MDG, to improve maternal health, aims to reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio. Additionally, three organs in the UN system are devoted to improving the lives of women: the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the UN Division for the Advancement of Women (UNDAW), and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).

Through the United Nations, the international community has come to a clear understanding regarding the rights of women. Many challenges remain in making these rights a reality for women around the world. However, there are also success stories. A year ago, Dr. Mohammed Yunis received the Nobel Peace Prize for the work he did involving microcredit, a form of loans that enables individuals to start their own business. The key to microcredit is that the loans are very small, often less than \$100. Dr. Yunis realized that a large bank would never consider loaning such a small amount of money to an individual, so he opened the Grameen Bank. If a poor woman would like to start a business in her home ironing clothes for people, she needs to purchase a good iron and an ironing board. However, perhaps her poverty prevents her from making this initial purchase. By going to the Grameen bank, she can borrow the small amount of money needed to purchase an iron, open her business, and begin earning extra money. Over time, the small amount of money she needed to start her business can be paid back to the bank. The idea of microcredit is simple but revolutionary. In the past decades, hundreds of thousands of poor people around the world have used microcredit to create opportunities for themselves and their children.

At West Lake MUN, the members of the General Assembly are urged to review their progress towards the goals relating to women's rights and to challenges faced by women as well as successful strategies to overcome these challenges. They can find inspiration and guidance in a statement made recently by Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations. "Today, we understand, even better than our founders did, that the empowerment of women is a fundamental condition if we are to make progress towards the goals for which the United Nations was created."

Sources:

"Women's empowerment key to achieving UN's goals, says Ban Ki-moon." UN News Centre 3 Oct. 2007

<<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=24164&Cr=women&Cr1=>>

“UN fund to help over 100,000 Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs” UN News Centre 11 Oct. 2007 <<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=24265&Cr=microcredit&Cr1=>>

### **Mitigating threats to polar environments.**

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in its upcoming Fourth Assessment Report (FAR), reveals that polar environments face the most rapid rates of warming as the climate changes. The report also concludes that “those with the least resources have the least capacity to adapt and are the most vulnerable.” The indigenous people of the Arctic and the populations of wildlife at both poles face ever greater pressures as the polar environments experience drastic change. The native populations of the polar environments, however, are least able to defend themselves from this threat that is caused by human activity around the world.

Threats to polar wildlife strike at a very fundamental level. Higher water temperatures allow currents to bring warm water from non-polar regions into the polar regions. Contaminants, pests, and parasites accompany this influx. Higher levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide lead to increased acidity of the sea water, consequently decreasing the ability of the ocean to take up more carbon dioxide. This adversely affects populations of corals, mollusks, and snails by lowering the amount of carbonate available for shell formation. Species that depend on coral and shellfish will be adversely affected.

The IPCC has also reported that the arctic ice cap will disappear in the next 25 years. The size of the ice cap is already shrinking more each year. As a result, oil companies and shipping companies are speculating on new opportunities. New ice-free areas are open for oil exploration. A blue Arctic ocean – an arctic ocean without ice – means that new shipping lanes will be available. Shipping companies are becoming interested in exploiting these lanes. These changes may be viewed as benefits from the perspective of global development. Countries bordering the Arctic Circle have called for discussions on managing the increased human activity in the Arctic Ocean.

The World Meteorological Organization and International Council for Science have designated 2007-2009 as the fourth International Polar Year. A massive study of both polar regions is being organized to determine the current status of these environments and the changes they are undergoing. The Kyoto Protocol will expire in 2012. Discussions of the next climate treaty are scheduled to begin in 2009. Delegates to West Lake MUN are urged to study the effects of global climate change on polar regions and to discuss ways that the international community can address these effects.

#### **Sources:**

Anisimov, O.A., D.G. Vaughan, T.V. Callaghan, C. Furgal, H. Marchant, T.D. Prowse, H. Vilhjálmsson and J.E. Walsh, 2007: Polar regions (Arctic and Antarctic). *Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, M.L. Parry, O.F. Canziani, J.P. Palutikof, P.J. van der Linden and C.E. Hanson, Eds., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 653-685.<<http://www.ipcc-wg2.org/>>

International Council for Science. 2004. *A Framework for the International Polar Year 2007-2008* produced by the ICSU IPY 2007-2008 Planning Group  
<[http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/a\\_framework\\_for\\_the\\_international\\_polar\\_year/](http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/a_framework_for_the_international_polar_year/)>

“The Big Melt: A Series.” The New York Times Oct. 2007:  
<<http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/science/series/thebigmelt/>>

### **Protecting human rights while combating terror.**

Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “Everyone has a right to life, liberty and security of person.” Article 12 of the same declaration states that “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence...Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.” To a certain extent, these rights come into conflict. In order to provide “security of person,” governments monitor the activities of criminals and enemies. However, such monitoring activities may cause “arbitrary interference with [the] privacy” of innocent people.

In an age when terrorist acts occur with ever greater frequency and severity, governments seek to protect their citizens from these acts. However, in their zeal to prevent terrorist attacks, governments seem to be using ever more extreme security measures. For example, certain actions by the United States government appear to place human rights on a lower rank than the need for security: interrogation of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, the Abu-Ghraib prison scandal, and the case of Khalil El-Masri, a German citizen who was abducted by the CIA and tortured in a secret CIA prison in Afghanistan. As another example, the government of Israel continues to use very strict security measures to protect its people from the anonymous attacks of suicide bombers. The new United Nations Human Rights Council has itself been criticized for bringing up, in its discussions, the topic of Israel no less than thirteen times in the past year. Finally, the whole of central London is monitored constantly with using closed circuit television. The benefits to security provided by this monitoring are obvious, but have ordinary citizens given up their basic human right to privacy? Clearly, there are no easy answers.

During the formation of the United Nations at the end of World War II, the world witnessed an extensive discussion of human rights, resulting in passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The atrocities of World War II forced humans to consider the question of universal rights. Currently, the atrocities of terrorism are redefining the way people and governments interact. Delegates to West Lake MUN are asked to revisit the discussion of human rights and to consider the implications of these rights in our modern world.

## **Conference Schedule and Venue**

Opening and closing ceremonies and all debates will take place in the Performance Room of Hangzhou International School. Registration, lunch, and post-conference socializing will take place in the school cafeteria (immediately below the Performance Room). Weather permitting, delegates are free to stroll around the athletic fields and adjacent lanes during lunch.

### **Saturday, November 17, 2007**

9:00 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 11:15	Opening ceremonies, 1 minute speech by each country on the conference theme
11:30 – 12:30	General Assembly debate
12:30 – 1:30*	Lunch (provided by the conference)
1:30 – 3:30	General Assembly debate
3:30 – 4:00	Closing ceremonies
4:00 – 5:00	Snack and drinks provided while delegates depart or change clothes for the dinner/dance.
5:00 – 6:00	Dinner
6:00 – 8:30	Dance

\*The actual time for lunch will vary somewhat from this published time. The President of the General Assembly will determine the timing of lunch and announce it during the debates.

## ***Rules of Procedure***

### **General Rules**

These rules are designed to ensure that each delegation enjoys an equal opportunity to voice its opinion at the conference. It is the responsibility of each delegate to understand these rules and act according to the procedures detailed below. The student officers will apply these rules with the goal of facilitating a fair debate. Any misuse of the rules will not be tolerated.

Since this is a simulation of the United Nations, all articles and principles of the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will guide the delegations during this event. However, since West Lake MUN will last only one day, certain additions and changes to the above principles are in order. They are detailed in this handbook.

Diplomatic behavior is expected from each delegate. First and foremost, the delegates must respect all decisions of the chair or president. Such decisions are final. It follows that delegates must always obtain the floor before speaking and yield the floor at the request of the chair. Additionally, delegates should always stand when speaking, refrain from using personal pronouns in their speech, and be courteous. Disruptive behavior or non-diplomatic language may result in a warning, expulsion from the debate, or expulsion from the conference, at the discretion of the president or chair.

### **Opening Speeches in the General Assembly**

Each delegation is expected to come prepared with a policy statement / speech centered on the theme of the conference (see discussion above). These speeches must be restricted to one minute. Additionally, the number of delegates attending the conference presents another challenge to the president of the General Assembly. Time constraints prevent the assembly from listening to each delegate's speech during the opening ceremonies. Therefore, the President of the General Assembly will call on delegations randomly. Only those delegations identified by the President will deliver a speech at the opening ceremony.

At the discretion of the President of the General Assembly, the right of reply will be available to delegates following a specified number of opening speeches. The President will call for replies from the house and grant the floor to chosen delegates. Each reply must refer to one of the preceding speeches.

### **Preparation and Submission of Draft Resolutions**

Resolutions will be produced by delegates within their clubs and classes prior to the West Lake MUN conference. MUN advisors from the participating schools will choose the best resolutions for debate and present these to the conference officers. The officers will make final choices regarding number of resolutions to be debate and the order in which the resolutions will be debated.

Although lobbying and merging will not take place at this conference, caucusing will be used after the introduction of each resolution. Following the reading of the operative clauses, chairs will allow points of information to the main submitter and then the General Assembly will spend a set amount of time in caucus. During the caucusing time, delegates may leave



their seats and discuss the resolution with one another. This will give delegates a chance to see how other countries view the resolution and whether they support it or not. Delegates are urged to speak with those countries which are their nearest neighbors as well as their allies around the world. Student officers will circulate among the delegates to facilitate the caucusing process and answer questions about the issue or procedures.

## **Resolution Format**

Resolutions should be produced in Times New Roman 12-point font with single spacing. The instructions below assume the use of Microsoft Word to format the resolution.

### ***Heading***

The following headings should be listed in the upper left-hand corner, each on a separate line and in order: Forum, Topic, and Delegation

The name of forum, the complete topic, and delegation name should each be set off by one tab stop from the heading.

The topic should be identified using the same wording as found in this handbook.

The resolution is one long, grammatically-correct and logical sentence. Its subject is the name of the forum or body which is proposing the resolution. This is written on the second line following the delegation name, in uppercase letters and followed by a comma.

### ***Preambulatory Clauses***

All clauses are capitalized but not numbered or indented.

Each preambulatory clause begins with a present or past participle or an adjective, and these words should be underlined (see example below).

Preambulatory clauses are separated from each other by a comma and a line-space, and they are not numbered or indented.

### ***Operative Clauses***

Each operative clause is numbered and capitalized. Operative clauses, sub-clauses, and sub-sub-clauses are indented one tab stop. Sub-clauses are labeled with a lower-case letter. Sub-sub-clauses, if needed, can be indented two tab stops and labeled with a lower-case roman numeral.

Each operative clause begins with a 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular verb of the present tense, and these words should be underlined (see example below).

Operative clauses are separated from each other by a semi-colon and a line-space. The final operative clause ends in a period.

Sub-clauses are listed following a colon. They are written on separate lines without any punctuation or line-spacing separating them. The final subclause is followed by a semi-colon.

Sub-sub-clauses are also listed in the same way as sub-clauses: following a colon, on separate lines with no punctuation other than a semi-colon at the end of the last sub-sub-clause in the list.

*An example of a properly-formatted resolution:*

Forum: General Assembly  
Question of: Prevention of Armed Conflict  
Delegation: Sri Lanka

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of Nations,

Recalling Chapter VI and Article 2.3 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recognizing that the prevention of armed conflict and the pacific settlement of disputes could be useful tools for the United Nations in order to build a social foundation for peace,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of armed conflict;
2. Encourages Member States to utilize regional arrangements or agencies, where available, for the peaceful settlement of their disputes;
3. Recognizes the need for coordinating the prevention of armed conflict throughout the United Nations system, and calls upon its relevant organs, organizations and bodies to consider how they could best include a conflict prevention perspective in their activities, including but not limited to:
  - a. the identification of armed factions present in a project area and the strict isolation of these groups from the delivery of aid and services
  - b. the coordinated provision of incentives to leaders of armed factions encouraging them work with the UN in a peaceful capacity;
4. Resolves to remain actively seized of this matter.

Please take note that this resolution is actually one long, grammatically-correct and logical sentence.

## **Procedures During Debate**

### ***Parliamentary Procedure***

Roberts Rules of parliamentary procedure will be used at West Lake MUN. Student officers are trained in these rules and their application. They will gladly provide insights and advice to delegates. Delegates with questions can express them in the form of a note to the chair or by rising to a point of order, a point of information to the Chair, or a point of parliamentary inquiry. These points will not be allowed to interrupt a speaker.

### ***Powers of the Chair during Formal Debate***

All decisions of the Chair are final.

The Chair proposes the amount of time allotted for debate and in caucus. The Chair may keep all debate open or may set the amount of time spent debating for and the time against the resolution. If amendments are considered, the chair will announce the time for open debate on the amendment. All amendments will be debated using open debate. At the close of debate time, the Chair may propose an extension of the time for open debate. Conversely, the Chair may also limit or cut short the debate time. Debate time includes the time taken by speakers in answering questions but not the time taken up for questions to the speaker or other interruptions. The Chair may also call recesses and will announce when the forum is adjourned.

The Chair may call on any delegation to speak, even if that delegation has not raised its placard. This is usually done in the interest of providing a fair or lively debate. The Chair also has the power to restrict a delegate's ability to speak. Again, this is usually done in the interest of providing a fair debate, especially if one delegate has spoken several times.

The Chair will be allowed to eject delegates from the assembly if their behavior deviates dramatically from the rules of procedure. The delegate in question will be warned at the chair's discretion. The chair will communicate the length of time for which the delegate is ejected. For example, the delegate may be ejected for the remainder of the debate on the current resolution or the remainder of the conference.

### ***Caucusing***

The Chair will initiate the caucus session and announce the amount of time allotted in caucus. The purpose of the caucus time is to allow delegates to discuss the resolution being debated. Student officers will circulate among the delegates to encourage such discussion. MUN advisors are also encouraged to be available within the chamber for questions from delegates related to the content of a resolution. Delegates should make the most of their time in caucus by meeting with other countries in their region or with similar positions on an issue. The drafting of amendments to the resolution can also occur during caucus.

### ***Amendments to Resolutions***

Amendments to resolutions can be made by any delegate and should be proposed with the aim of improving the resolution so that a wider consensus can be achieved. Official conference amendment paper will be provided to each delegate during registration. Proposed amendments should be sent to the Chair. At the Chair's discretion, an amendment will be

brought up for debate. If this occurs, the Chair will yield the floor to the submitter of the amendment who will be given time to speak in support of it.

### ***Yielding the Floor to other delegates***

A speaker may ask the chair for permission to yield the floor to another delegate. Such yielding may only be done only once consecutively. The use of “yield chains” is not within the procedures of West Lake MUN.

### ***Rising to Points***

A Point of Personal Privilege must refer to the comfort and well-being of the delegate. It may not refer to the resolution or the contents of a speech. A point of personal privilege may interrupt the speaker only if the speech is inaudible. This is the only case in which a point may interrupt the speaker.

A Point of Order is directed only to the chair and is used to point out a misuse of the rules.

A Point of Information is a question directed to the speaker who has the floor or to the Chair. The question may be preceded by a short statement. Although a delegate may ask for a follow-up point of information, the Chair will rarely grant such a request.

A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry is a point of information directed to the Chair concerning parliamentary rules.

As stated before, points may not interrupt the speaker except in the case of a point of personal privilege referring to audibility. All other points are dealt with only when the speaker has yielded the floor either to points of information, to another delegate, or to the Chair.

### ***Note-Passing***

Administrative staff will be on hand to assist in the passing of notes during the debate. Delegates must arrive with their own note-paper prepared. Notes are intended to help delegates move the debate forward. All notes will be read by the staff. Notes that appear to relate to non-MUN topics will be handed to the Chair who has the authority to keep the note.

Note passing will be suspended during voting procedures, but the Chair has the authority to suspend note passing at any time. Delegates wishing to be excused to the restroom should send a note to the chair and wait for a response.

### ***The Previous Question***

Moving the Previous Question calls for the closure of debate and for a vote to be taken on the pending motion. Usually, the Chair will make this motion, but a speaker who has the floor may also make such a motion.

### ***Voting***

All delegates representing member states of the United Nations may vote.

After the Chair has announced the start of voting procedures, no interruptions are allowed except for points of order related to the conduct of the voting. Abstentions do not count for or against a resolution or amendment. In the event of a close vote, a delegate can move to

divide the house. The Chair will once again start the voting procedures, and any delegates who abstained are encouraged to vote.

## **Dress Code**

Delegates are required to wear clothes that fit the occasion of a meeting of countries. Standard business attire is expected of all delegates. Furthermore, styles and accessories that detract from the proceedings by drawing an unwarranted amount of attention to one delegate are prohibited. Delegates may find that they have a question about a specific shirt, type of shoe, or earring, etc. A good rule of thumb is “If you have to ask, it’s not appropriate for the conference.” Directors are expected to guide delegates in this regard.

*The rules of procedure for West Lake MUN were adapted from the rules used at The Kuwait Schools Activities Association (KSAA) Model United Nations conference and The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) conference.*

## Appendix A: Introductory Phrases for Resolutions

The following lists were taken from Williams, D.L. and Stein, I. *Uniting the Nations through Model United Nations* 2006, International Youth Support and from Endless, B. and Wolfe, A. Model UN “in a box” 2006 American United Nations Publications.

Further examples can be found in UN resolutions.

### Words and phrases to introduce Preamble Clauses

Acknowledging	Expecting	Noting with appreciation
Affirming	Expressing its appreciation	Noting with approval
Alarmed by	Expressing its satisfaction	Noting with deep concern
Approving	Fulfilling	Noting with regret
Aware of	Fully alarmed	Noting with satisfaction
Bearing in mind	Fully aware	Observing
Believing	Fully believing	Pointing out
Confident	Further deploring	Reaffirming
Congratulating	Further recalling	Realizing
Contemplating	Guided by	Recalling
Convinced	Having adopted	Recognizing
Declaring	Having considered	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having considered further	Reminding
Deeply conscious of	Having devoted attention	Seeking
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking into account
Deeply disturbed	Having heard	Taking into consideration
Deeply regretting	Having received	Taking note
Deploring	Having studied	Viewing with appreciation
Desiring	Keeping in mind	Welcoming
Emphasizing	Noting further	

### Words and Phrases to introduce Operative Clauses

Accepts	Encourages	Proposes
Affirms	Endorses	Reaffirms
Approves	Expressing its appreciation	Recommends
Asks	Expresses its hope	Regrets
Authorizes	Further invites	Reminds
Calls for	Further proclaims	Requests
Calls upon	Further recommends	Resolves
Condemns	Further reminds	Seeks
Confirms	Further requests	Solemnly affirms
Congratulates	Further resolves	Strongly condemns
Declares accordingly	Has resolved	Suggests
Deplores	Hopes	Supports
Designates	Invites	Transmits
Draws attention to	Notes	Urges
Emphasizes	Proclaims	Welcomes

## **Appendix B: Useful Phrases and Terms relating to Debate**

The House: all the delegates gathered for the debate.

The Chair: the manager of the debate

The Resolution: the proposed solution to a world problem. This solution is what you debate.

The Main Submitter: the delegate who played the lead role in creating the resolution.

The Second Speaker: another delegate who played an important in creating the resolution.

The Floor: the right to speak. The Chair controls who has access to the floor. If you have been given the right to speak, you have been given the floor. After you have spoken, you yield the floor, or give up your right to speak.

### ***Modes of Address***

Polite speakers always address the chair when they begin speaking. As the person who manages the discussion, the chair deserves respect.

“Madame/Mister Chair” or “Honorable Chair”

Polite speakers always use formal language when addressing another delegate.

“Honorable Delegate” or “The Delegate of \_\_\_\_\_”

A good way to begin every speech:

“Honorable chair, fellow delegates...”

### ***Obtaining and Yielding the Floor***

The chair controls who has the right to speak. This is NOT because the chair is better than the rest of the delegates in the house. The chair’s job is to manage a debate in which every delegate has an equal opportunity to speak. A debate is a very structured event, and the chair is the person who keeps everyone organized within that structure.

During regular debate, there are two opportunities for delegates to obtain the floor.

The Chair asks, “Are there any points of information on the floor at this time? Please raise your placards.”

After the resolution is introduced and the main submitter has read the operative clauses, the chair will ask the main submitter if he or she is open to points of information. In other words, will the speaker take questions? If the speaker agrees to take points of information, the chair will ask the delegates if they have any points of information. Don’t raise your placard until you have been asked. If you are “recognized” (chosen), you may rise, go to the microphone on the floor, and ask your question to the speaker. At the conclusion of the speaker’s answer, it is your right to ask for a follow-up question. “Request follow-up.” The chair will probably deny it. Remember, there are a lot of other delegates who would like to ask questions. When your turn to ask questions is at an end, return to your seat.

The Chair asks, “Are there any delegates wishing to speak in favor of / against the resolution? Please raise your placards.”

When one speaker has finished taking questions, the chair will open the floor to others speakers. ANY delegate has the right to get up and make a speech (usually one minute in length). At the conclusion of your speech, the chair will ask you if you are “Open to any points of information.” You may say no, but that is not very diplomatic. You may say “Any and all,” allowing the chair to decide how many questions you will answer from the house.

You may also set the number of questions that you will answer by saying “Two points of information.” At this point, the chair will ask the house if there are any questions.

After answering the questions relating to your speech, the chair will ask you to yield the floor back to him or her. It is polite for you to say “The Delegate of say your country name yields the floor back to the chair.” Notice that you are referring to yourself in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person.

Instead of yielding the floor to the chair, it is your right to ask the chair if you can yield the floor to another speaker. “The Delegate of Country A (you) requests permission to yield the floor to the Delegate of Country B (your ally).” The chair may allow or deny this request. The chair’s decision is final.

### ***Asking a Question***

Most delegates enter the debate the first time by asking a question of the main speaker. If you are new to debate, listen to the way other delegates ask questions as well as the type of questions they ask.

Questions usually begin with the following phrases:

“Does the speaker agree that...” or “Does the speaker not agree that ...”

“Is the speaker aware that...” or “Is the speaker not aware that...”

“The Delegate of say delegate’s country stated that...Does the delegate not realize that”

Even though these appear on the surface to be “yes or no” questions, it would be very rude of any delegate to answer them in such a simple fashion. In fact, every question is chance to move the discussion forward. You will notice that most delegates precede their questions with one or statements of opinion. These must be short, but are allowed. You will also notice that the response to a question may be quite brief and then followed by an the presentation of an entirely different argument by the speaker.

### ***Making a Speech for or against a Resolution***

There are no winners in MUN. A debate is not a contest. It is a discussion about the best possible action to take. At the end of the debate, a failed resolution is a failure for everyone. As in the real United Nations, it is easy for one bloc of countries to band together and pass a resolution. So, the point is not to pass a resolution. The true sign of success is when a resolution passes with a very large majority of delegates. This signifies that the countries of the world have come to a consensus on a difficult issue.

If you are speaking for a resolution, emphasize the benefits without making anyone look bad. If you are speaking against a resolution, do not belittle the resolution or those who support it. Always feel free to suggest amendments in your speech. Make certain that you write these amendments on the amendment paper that has been provided and submit them to the chair.

Keep your speech short. Make your points clearly.

At the conclusion of your speech, you should restate your position for or against.

“The Delegate of say your country urges the house to vote for/against this resolution/amendment.”